[23rd September 1961

Steel-rolling mills

* 1763 Q.—SRI A. A. RASHEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the resolution, passed at the All-India Manufacturers' Organization, which met in Coimbatore on 8th July 1961, that steel rolling mills should be established in Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Madurai and Salem; and

(b) if so, the action taken on this resolution?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government are taking steps to set up a steel rolling mill with an annual capacity of 20,000 tons in the State in the Public Sector.

The Government have also recommended a number of applications for licences under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, to set up steel re-rolling mills in the Private Sector in various parts of this State. The decision of the Government of India on these applications is awaited.

SRI A. A. RASHEED: May I know where will these steel rolling mills be established in our State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Private applications have been recommended to the Government of India and I do not think it is possible to give the names of applicants, the places they want the steel re-rolling mills to be established.

Handloom Weavers—Indebtedness of

* 1764 Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(a) the details of schemes for relieving the handloom weavers of their indebtedness; and

(b) the number of weavers benefited by the scheme up to 30th June 1961?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: (a) The details of the scheme has been furnished in the statement which was placed on the table of the House on 29th March 1961 in reply to Starred Question No. 1690 by the hon. Member.

(b) The scheme has been forwarded to the All-India Handloom Board for its technical approval. The Central Working Group for Handloom Industry has recommended the scheme. The recommendation has been accepted in principle by the Government of India. The Board has been addressed to expedite the technical approval. Action will be taken simultaneously to start implementing the scheme.